



H.R. 2929 – To limit the use of funds to establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq or to exercise United States economic control of the oil resources of Iraq

Floor Situation

H.R. 2929 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) on June 28, 2007, and has not been considered by any committee in the 110th Congress.

H.R. 2929 is expected to be considered on the floor on July 25, 2007.

Summary

The bill expresses that it is the policy of the United States not to establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq and not to exercise United States control of the oil resources of Iraq.

H.R. 2929 prohibits funds made available by any Act of Congress to be obligated or expended for the following purposes:

- To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq; and,
- To exercise United States economic control of the oil resources of Iraq.

**Note: Similar language was included in the FY2007 National Defense Authorization Act for any funds authorized by that bill. The FY2008 Defense Authorization bill expanded that prohibition to any funds authorized for any fiscal year.*

Background

Speaker Pelosi has promised a “month of action in Congress to end the war, including a vote to redeploy our troops by next spring.” H.R. 2929 is a continuation of that effort and a reflection of the current law pertaining to bases in Iraq. In fact, there is no such thing as a permanent U.S. military installation anywhere in the world, including within the United

States. The Base Realignment and Closure process has highlighted that all bases are temporary and can be closed.

On June 16, 2006, WhiteHouse Spokesman Tony Snow reiterated that President Bush does not have plans to maintain permanent bases in Iraq. Specifically, Mr. Snow said, "No permanent bases. (We) don't have permanent bases anywhere."

Since Operation Iraqi Freedom began, the U.S. military has occupied roughly 115 "forward operating sites", or locations intended for rotational use by U.S. forces. Of these sites, 52 were transitioned to Iraqi control between February 2005 and March 2007. General David Petraeus, the Commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq, has plans to transition approximately 60 more sites to Iraqi control.

The House of Representatives has voted 6 separate times on bills that contained language prohibiting the establishment of permanent bases in Iraq; all 6 have passed the House. Of the 6 bills, 3 of them have become Public Law.

In the 110th Congress, the House of Representatives passed an Iraq Supplemental (H.R. 2206) on May 10, 2007, by a recorded vote of 221 - 205 ([Roll no. 333](#)). H.R. 2206 was signed into law on May 25, 2007 (PL 110-28). The bill contained language that withholds certain funds until the Secretary of Defense certifies to Congress that none of the funds will be used to create permanent bases in Iraq.

This Congress also passed the FY2008 Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 1585) on May 17, 2007, by a recorded vote of 397 - 27 ([Roll no. 373](#)). This bill contained almost identical permanent base and oil language as H.R. 2929.

The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2007 (PL 109-289) Conference Report passed the House of Representatives on September 26, 2006 by a recorded vote of 394 - 22 ([Roll no. 486](#)). The law prohibits the creation of permanent bases in Iraq and U.S. control of Iraqi oil resources through September 30, 2007.

The John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (PL 109-364) passed the House of Representatives on September 29, 2006, by a recorded vote of 398 - 23 ([Roll no. 510](#)). The law prohibits the obligation or expenditure of FY07 funds to establish permanent bases in Iraq or control the oil resources of Iraq

Cost

The Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation.

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